

Activity Report 2010

DAAD Contract No P/09/04718

Reporting Period: January 1st 2010 – December 31st 2010
 Institution: University of Agriculture, Faisalabad – PAKISTAN (UAF)
 Name: Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan
 Function: Principal Investigator

Section 1 Type of Activity	DAAD - Lfd No. (ICDD)
Visiting Lecturer	
Field Research √	
Workshop √	
Travel √	
Marketing, Material (please add copies, link to your ICDD homepage) √ http://www.uaf.edu.pk/directorates/external_linkages/ext_icdd.html	
Section 2 Please summarise the work/ activities performed.	
<p>Miss Marie Hertkorn, a student from University of Kassel did her internship at UAF from April to July, 2010. She did a survey on the female students at UAF. A presentation of her work on Female Students of Agriculture in Pakistan: Family Backgrounds, Career Plans and Decent Conditions for studies abroad is available at http://www.uaf.edu.pk/golden_jubilee/gld_events_archive.html</p> <p>Prof. Dr. Anwar-ul-Hassan, Director Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences, UAF participated in an ICDD introductory workshop in Kassel from 8-15 April, 2010.</p> <p>A workshop of the PhD and MSc ICDD Scholars was organised on June 28, 2010 to review the progress of their research projects in ICDD thematic area. Their presentations are available at http://www.uaf.edu.pk/directorates/external_linkages/ext_icdd.html</p> <p>Professors Iqrar A. Khan, Asif Ali and Ashfaq A. Maan participated in the Annual Steering Committee Meeting and Annual Thematic Conference “Migrant Workers and Migration” at Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Sao Paulo, Brazil from July 1 to 7, 2010.</p> <p>Dean Michael Wachendorf from August 16-19 and Prof. Andreas Buerkert and Prof. Eva Schlecht from August 16-23 visited UAF for field work and supervision of PhD research experiments. Prof. Andreas Buerkert, Prof. Eva Schlecht, Prof. Iqrar A. Khan and Prof. Younas visited Cholistan from August 19-22 for field work and outreach. Tour Report of the coupling plant and animal production systems for poverty alleviation in Cholistan is available at</p>	

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Mr. Shoaib ur Rehman, PhD student and Ms. Anam Ali, MSc student did GIS training from 25 September – 31 October 2010 at University of Kassel. They performed excellent there and on their return both were put to another training workshop on GIS and Remote Sensing organised at UAF during November-December 2010. Their trainings will help build capacity at UAF to take up the planned ICDD studies in Pakistan. Another ICDD scholar Mrs. Anisa Ali did her training on date palm from November 20 to December 25 at Germany.

During October and November, 2010 field work was carried on date palm in different areas of Azad Jammu & Kashmir (Rawlakot, Bagh, Ponch and Kotli), Punjab (Kahota, Murree) and Khyber Pakhtonkhwa (Dera Ismail Khan District) for date palm diversity GPS based survey, collection of samples, recording of grower problems and training.

During her visit from December, 2011 to January 2011, Prof. Knerr and Summar A. Naqvi a PhD student of Prof. Iqrar A. Khan working on date palm visited the District Sukkur, Sind, the date palm trade centre in Pakistan. They had a hectic schedule of meetings and interviews with the stakeholders there. They tried to explore the role of date palm in the daily life of the marginal people and look at the prospects of working on date palm value chain for poverty alleviation of the resource poor workers involved. They also tried to explore the marketing chain from farmers to end users and understand the import and export strategy of the market. She critically looked at the price variations for varietal difference and fresh dates and dry dates demands/markets. They also overviewed the impact of local strategies for drying, handling and packing on fruit quality and market prices.

Dr. Anjum and his ICDD sponsored MSc students started their work on various sugar factories and other agro-based industry for Ergonomics, Safety and Health.

Prof. Beatrice Knerr and Ms. Zhao Xi from Kassel and Dr. Abdillahi Aboud from Kenya arrived in December 2010 for field work and participation in an international conference on "Migration and Desertification" organized under ICDD portfolio of UAF.

The speakers of the conferences included Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor, UAF, Ms Ursula Saarabek, Director DAAD Islamabad, Prof. Dr. Beatrice Knerr, Dr. Abdillahi Aboud, Prof. Dr. Saeed Shafqat, Director Centre for Public Policy and Governance, FC College University Lahore, Miss Zhao Xi, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Zafar, Dean Faculty of Agri. Economics & Rural Sociology, Prof. Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Maann, Dr. Izhar Ahmad Khan, and Mr. Ijaz Imran. The learned speakers were of the considerate view that the government must tap the demographic dividend and involve the ever high volume of youth in entrepreneurial, technical, vocational and self employing activities in rural as well as urban areas.

Prof. Dr. Saeed Shafqat, Director Centre for Public Policy and Governance, FC College University, Lahore brought to the focus that a significant proportion of the human population in Japan and European countries is becoming old age, which needs extended health care and Pakistan can harness the opportunity by equipping a large number of girls with requisite nursing skills and then send them to the

countries facing aging problems.

Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan underlined that migration is a powerful tool for development, which promotes diversification in experiences and learning. Professor Khan emphasised on making the remittances sent by overseas Pakistanis more productive. He further emphasised that the custom of wasting remittances on building huge houses, just as a sign of social superiority, must be discouraged.

The Director DAAD Islamabad, Ms Ursula Saarabek, had a special session with the UAF students. She informed that DAAD were offering 53000 scholarships globally and students of UAF can get the opportunity of studying in German universities by winning the scholarships on competitive basis. She urged UAF students to visit DAAD website www.ic.daad.de/islamabad. Ms Ursula Saarabek counselled the students for making scholarship application/proposal and winning grants. Prof. Dr. Beatrice Knerr informed that under ICDD program, UAF students gets speedy visa processing if the application is endorsed by the faculty.

Prof. Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Maann Chairman Dept. of Rural Sociology revealed various undiscovered aspects of international migration and domestic workers issues in Pakistan and abroad.

Professor Dr. Beatrice Knerr, in addition to her own presentation and keynote address on desertification and migration, presented the work of her student Marie carried out on the female students of UAF.

Section 3 What were the main achievements during the reporting period? Describe the effects of the activity.

With the establishment of a separate office and exclusive ICDD display board, circulation of ICDD stationary and other marketing material, coverage of the ICDD events through electronic and print media the ICDD has become a common vocabulary not only among the UAF campus community but also among the other higher education institutions, R&D and planning institution. The general public is also getting awareness about this centre of excellence aiming at doing decent work.

The selection of candidates for PhD and MSc for ICDD scholarships through a stringent merit policy has started showing results in terms of their performance. The plans of work and performances of the ICDD scholars at UAF are given in their presentations uploaded at http://www.uaf.edu.pk/directorates/external_linkages/ext_icdd.html

With the ICDD kick off grants and scholarships at UAF the activities of the program have been extended to the remote areas and industry. Thus these have started impacting the target groups of people for bringing decency in their lives.

Professor Dr. Younas from UAF has been selected for Ela Bhatt Guest Professorship for Development and Decent Work. He is serving at the ICDD office at Kassel Since October 2010.

An ICDD international conference was organised on "Migration and Desertification"

and field work and outreach activities were conducted all over Pakistan, especially in Cholistan, Sakhar, Dera Ismail Khan and Kashmir.

A kick-off grant on Value addition to Agricultural Products using Solar Energy has been approved for funding.

Section 4 “Lessons Learned” Discuss the feasibility of projects planned and if needed offer suggestions for modifications for the future.

The following projects were planned in 2010.

- Assessment of Date Palm Bio-diversity and its Potential for Decent Livelihoods in Marginal Areas of Pakistan
- Rural – Urban Migration and Domestic Work in Pakistan
- Ergonomics
- The Director DAAD has shown interest to hold a conference of the alumni of German Universities in Pakistan during 2011 at UAF

Section 5 Please assess the benefit in terms of development policy, the sustainability and the effect in terms of publicity of the activities in 2010.

The ICDD gets the highest projection among the internationalisation programs of the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. The ICDD program is projected with every outreach and promotion activity of the UAF. Consequently, the ICDD studies have started appealing to stakeholders. Because of the aggressive persuasion of the ICDD agenda by UAF management, faculty and students the researchers from policy institutions and federal and provincial Ministries have started looking at UAF and its graduates for contributing to the policy guide lines.

Section 6 Explain any activities undertaken in relation to the use or dissemination of project results, including publications made, press releases, brochures etc. or any other dissemination activities carried out, such as presentations at conferences etc.

The ICDD group at UAF meets repeatedly to review and discuss student projects and other relevant issues. The students present their work progress and get feedback through these meetings. Minutes of the meetings are also submitted to ICDD office at Kassel. These meetings also get press coverage.

An office dedicated for ICDD visiting faculty and students has a conspicuous location at the UAF Campus. The Display and Sign Boards with ICDD monogram also have high visibility at the campus. All ICDD advertisements, calls and activities are displayed on the ICDD Notice Boards and the student/ visitor can not miss the ICDD displays.

A special book rack has been made available for ICDD books in the main library of the university, where average visitation is in thousands.

The ICDD group at Kassel and other partner universities keep posting relevant news, information and feedback, which get wide circulation among the campus community.

The ICDD conference at UAF and field work all over Pakistan, publication of brochure and other marketing materials and media coverage of the ICDD events were instrumental for making ICDD and even DAAD a common vocabulary all around.